

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Meiningen

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 11 February 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

RETURN TO CIA
12-27-52

1. Prior to late January 1952, the Barbara Kaserne on Utendorferstrasse, Meiningen (M 51/H 82), was occupied to capacity by about 1,200 men. Sentries seen in front of the installation wore black-bordered red epaulets. [redacted] on several evenings that all the windows of the quarters were lighted. On 27 December 1951, 50 officers carrying luggage with them arrived by rail from the direction of Erfurt and were taken to the Barbara Kaserne by trucks [redacted]

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[redacted]. According to rumors [redacted], these officers had come from the U.S.S.R. They replaced 50 other officers from Meiningen who were allegedly to be transferred back to the U.S.S.R. On 10 January 1952, Lieutenant Colonel Moishesh (fnu), deputy commander of the unit stationed in the Barbara Kaserne, left as the last officer of the group of 50. Major Kashirov (fnu), administrative officer, had left the military post some days before. Colonel Jaeger (fnu) was still observed as the commanding officer of the unit concerned.

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2. Since 2 January 1952, training activities in the Barbara Kaserne have been conducted exclusively at night from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. From 3 to 5 a.m. on 8 January 1952, training with at least 40 x 76.2-mm AT guns was observed. Training activities on a lesser scale were also conducted in the barracks yard and in front of the garages. The sites on which the troops practiced were illuminated by electric light. On 24 January, 16 SP guns, apparently of the SU-76 type, were observed at the edge of Meiningen coming from the direction of Dreissigacker. SP guns [redacted] later entered the barracks installation. The location of the other 8 SP guns could not be determined [redacted]. During the period from 2 to 26 January, 18 mortars, including 50-mm, 82-mm and 120-mm mortars, were observed in connection with training activities in the barracks yard.

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* Comment. [redacted]

This indicates that contrary to previous assumptions this regiment did not move to Ohrdruf. The number of AT guns and SU-76 SP guns far exceeds the standard equipment of a motorized rifle regiment. If this number should be correct, it might indicate that an AT training course was being held in Meiningen.

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Security Information

This assumption would be supported by the exchange of 50 officers. [redacted]
[redacted] Colonel Jaeger (fnu) and Lieutenant Colonel Moishesh
(fnu) were first reported in December 1951 [redacted] as having
the same assignments. Major Kashirov (fnu) is said to have been administrative
officer in the Barbara Kaserne since 1949. His reported transfer is therefore
credible. [redacted]

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